***** VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE*****

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim ~~1~~ 4 wherein the connector allows pivoting of the stem side to side about a rotation axis intermediate a range of about +/- 60 degrees relative to the shaft axis about a rotation axis..

3. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 2 wherein the tilting axis is spaced from and perpendicular to the rotation axis.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A retractor assembly ~~of claim 1~~ comprising:

a support;

a clamp selectively positionable at a desired location on the support;

a retractor shaft connected to the clamp extending away from the clamp and support, and having an end with a shaft axis extending through the end of the retractor shaft, said end spaced by the retractor shaft from the clamp and support;

a connector connected to the retractor shaft at the end of the retractor shaft; and

a retractor blade connected to the connector by a stem, said stem retained to the shaft by the connector and angularly positionable relative to the shaft axis up and down intermediate a range of +/- twenty degrees relative to the shaft axis about a tilting axis; and

wherein the clamp grips the support when secured at the desired location on the support.

5. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim ~~1~~ 4 wherein the support is a retractor support ring.

6. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim ~~1~~ 4 wherein the retractor shaft is substantially linear and extends along the axis.

7. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim ~~1~~ 4 wherein the connector further comprises a flange clevis connected to the retractor shaft which receives a pivot flange connected to the stem of the retractor blade, and said pivot flange is pivotable about a rotation axis, said rotation axis perpendicularly oriented to the shaft axis and tilting axis.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A retractor assembly ~~of claim 7 further~~ comprising:

a support;

a clamp selectively positionable at a desired location on the support;

a retractor shaft connected to the clamp extending away from the clamp and support, and having an end with a shaft axis extending through the end of the retractor shaft, said end spaced by the retractor shaft from the clamp and support;

a connector connected to the retractor shaft at the end of the retractor shaft; and

a retractor blade connected to the connector by a stem, said stem retained to the shaft by the connector and angularly positionable relative to the shaft axis up and down intermediate a range of +/- twenty degrees relative to the shaft axis about a tilting axis;

wherein the connector further comprises a flange clevis connected to the retractor shaft which receives a pivot flange connected to the stem of the retractor blade, and said pivot flange is pivotable about a rotation axis, said rotation axis perpendicularly oriented to the shaft axis and tilting axis; and

a blade attachment boss and the pivot flange is connected to the blade attachment boss which connects to the stem to the retractor blade.

9. (Original) The retractor assembly of claim 8 wherein further comprising side slots in the blade attachment boss and the blade attachment boss is connected by a pin restrained by the side slots.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim ~~10~~ 4 wherein the connector further comprises a slot limiting the angle of the retractor blade relative to the shaft axis.

12. (Previously Amended) The retractor assembly of claim 11 further comprising a flange clevis connected to the shaft containing the slot therein, and a pivot flange angularly positionable within the slot thereby allowing the angle of the shoulder to be selected.

13 - 17. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim [17] 4 wherein the slot is laterally positioned to allow side to side movement of the hub in the slot about the rotation axis.

20. (Currently Amended) The retractor assembly of claim ~~17~~ 4 wherein the slot is intersected by the shaft axis.